

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page _2_, line _24_, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A1
Another type of information distribution in an organization can be obtained through a centralized data source, often referred to as a portal. A typical portal provides information links to various individuals[[:]], groups and information sources based on function or task assignments. The portal will also usually provide tools, such as search engines, for the user to locate desired or needed information. The information content provided by a portal can typically be specifically oriented to a particular individual or group to improve information access ease and efficiency.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page _4_, line _9_, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A2
Large organizations typically have a number of departments, each with a unique set of information needs. Often, however, the information needs of some departments overlap in some respects. An increase in productivity and efficiency can typically be obtained in the departments needing similar information if those departments can obtain that information from a single source, rather than from several independent sources. It is typically difficult, however, to enable departments to share data from a single source due to a lack of common goals, tasks and cooperation between departments with regard to resources, timing and so forth. As a result, it is often the case that different departments obtain redundant information from a variety of sources and retain the services of several information providers that cannot be easily interconnected, or cannot be used to share data on a departmental or interdepartmental basis.
